CLAIMS

- 1-27. (canceled)
- 28. (previously amended) A composition comprising a cell in which a molecular complex is bound to the surface of the cell, wherein the molecular complex comprises at least two first fusion proteins and at least two second fusion proteins, wherein:
- (a) each of the two first fusion proteins comprises an immunoglobulin heavy chain, wherein the immunoglobulin heavy chain comprises a variable region, and an extracellular portion of a first transmembrane polypeptide; and
- (b) each of the two second fusion proteins comprises an immunoglobulin light chain and an extracellular portion of a second transmembrane polypeptide;

wherein the at least two first fusion proteins and the at least two second fusion proteins associate to form a the molecular complex, wherein the molecular complex comprises two ligand binding sites, wherein each ligand binding site is formed by the extracellular domain of a first transmembrane polypeptide and the extracellular domain of a second transmembrane polypeptide, wherein the affinity of the molecular complex for a cognate ligand is increased at least two-fold over a dimeric molecular complex consisting of a the first and a the second fusion protein.

- 29. (original) The composition of claim 28 wherein the first transmembrane polypeptide is an MHC class II β chain and wherein the second transmembrane polypeptide is an MHC class II α chain.
- 30. (original) The composition of claim 28 wherein the first transmembrane polypeptide is a TCR α chain and wherein the second transmembrane polypeptide is a TCR β chain.

- 31. (original) The composition of claim 28 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 32. (previously amended) The composition of claim 28 wherein a population of the molecular complexes is bound to the cell, wherein an identical antigenic peptide is bound to each ligand binding site.
 - 33-50. (canceled)
- 51. (previously added) The composition of claim 28 wherein the immunoglobulin heavy chain is an IgG1 heavy chain.
- 52. (previously added) The composition of claim 28 wherein the immunoglobulin light chain is an Igk chain.
- 53. (previously added) The composition of claim 28 wherein the first fusion proteins comprise a first peptide linker between the immunoglobulin heavy chain and the extracellular domain of the first transmembrane polypeptide and wherein the second fusion proteins comprise a second peptide linker between the immunoglobulin light chain and the extracellular domain of the second transmembrane polypeptide.
- 54. (previously added) The composition of claim 53 wherein the first peptide linker is GLY-GLY-THR-SER-GLY (SEQ ID NO:10).
- 55. (previously added) The composition of claim 53 wherein the second peptide linker is GLY-SER-LEU-GLY-GLY-SER (SEQ ID NO:11).
- 56. (previously amended) The composition of claim 32 wherein the antigenic peptides are bound to the ligand binding sites by a method comprising the step of:

incubating the cell in the presence of the antigenic peptides, whereby the antigenic peptides are bound to the ligand binding sites.

- 57. (previously amended) The composition of claim 32 wherein the antigenic peptides are bound to the ligand binding sites by a method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) alkaline stripping of the molecular complex to provide an alkaline stripped molecular complex;
 - (b) neutralization of the alkaline stripped molecular complex to provide a neutralized molecular complex;
 - (c) incubation of the neutralized molecular complex in the presence of an excess of the antigenic peptides; and
 - (c) slow refolding of the neutralized molecular complex in the presence of the excess of the antigenic peptides.
- 58. (previously added) The composition of claim 32 wherein the antigenic peptides are covalently bound.
- 59. (previously added) The composition of claim 28 wherein the molecular complex is conjugated to a toxin.
- 60. (previously amended) The composition of claim 28 wherein the molecular complex is conjugated to a lymphokine or other effector molecule which stimulates an immune response.